

REMARKS

After entry of this amendment, claims 5, 7 – 12, 18, and 19 will be pending. Claims 1 – 4, 6, 13 – 17, and 20 are cancelled, and claim 5 has been amended. Support for the amendment may be found, for example, in the originally filed claims, as well as Figures 4a – 4b and related text. No new matter has been added.

The Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed claims 7 – 12, 18, and 19, and has indicated that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants submit that amended independent claim 5 is allowable.

Replacement drawings are enclosed, incorporating the amendments requested by the Examiner, i.e., Figures 1A, 1B, and 2 are designated --Prior Art--.

Rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 13, 14, 17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,455,905 to Perugupalli et al. (“Perugupalli”) in view of U.S. Patent No. U.S. 6,261,944 to Mehta et al. (“Mehta”). Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perugupalli in view of Mehta and U.S. Patent No. 4,472,871 to Green (“Green”). The rejection of these claims is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants believe that no fees are necessitated by the present paper. However, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1700.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite allowance of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 570-1806.

Respectfully submitted,

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